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COMMENTS BY OFFICE OF OPERATIONS
ON
MANAGEMENT BRANCH SURVEY OF FOREIGN DOCUMENTS BRANCH, OO

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Paragraph II.B.2:

Und

Paragraph II.E.1.c: OO doubts if there is "much unnecessary duplication" in translation between CIA and the IAC agencies, since the latter do very little translating. ONI currently employs 5 translators, ID has 5, and Air Documents Division (T-2) has approximately 12. Allocation of major translation responsibilities seem scarcely feasible under the circumstances.

Paragraph II.E.3.a: Coordination should be with the Department of the Army (Intelligence Division and the Adjutant General) only. Navy and Air Force document activities in Germany ceased in 1947.

Paragraph II.E.4 b (1): OO does not concur in statement that since only 10% of the periodical abstracts prompt translation requests, the abstracts are of "marginal value." Abstracts often serve the complete need of researchers or are used by recipients as a guide for their own translating service.

Paragraph II.E.4 b (2): Duplication of exploitation process only occurs when full translations are later requested, resulting in the double handling of one document. Intelligence Catalogue cards and abstracts are issued on different types of material and do not duplicate each other.

Paragraph II.E.4 c: Proposed Program. OO concurs in this program but believes that it should not be implemented at the expense of any of the current activities of the branch or over strong protests from our consumers. OO recommends the closest possible coordination between FDB and ORE in the preparation of detailed plans for the program.

Paragraph II.E.4 c (4): See comment on II.E.4 d (8) below.

Paragraph II.E.4 d (2): OO believes that researchers will wish to retain the privilege of making specific requests for information from foreign documents which is relevant to a given subject, problem, or report on which they are currently working.

Paragraph II.E.4 d (5): OO believes that abstracts are often the most economical method of presenting information from a document in a usable form to a researcher.

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Paragraph II.E.4 d (8):   OO does not concur in the limitation of dissemination of Intelligence Catalogue cards because:

    a. FDB workload would not be reduced, since reproduction is from one master card and is handled by Services.

    b. Issuance of Intelligence Catalogue cards to IAC agencies is of benefit to FDB. These cards are used as an intelligence index for the GMDS collection of German documents held by the Adjutant General. IAC agency representatives who wish German information on a specific subject or area may check the index either in their own agency or in the main GMDS file and request the loan of the original document directly from the Adjutant General. CIA is thus saved numerous queries, searches for documents, translation requests, and the doubtful procedure of borrowing a document from the AG to lend to a third agency.

Paragraph III.A: OO concurs in the proposed functional statement (Tab B). If further revision of the statement is necessary in view of non-concurrence by other offices, there should be close coordination between OO/FDB and Management Branch in developing a final statement of functions.

Paragraph III.A.3: (See comment on II.E.1.c above)

Paragraph III E: OO strongly concurs in a CIA program for careful selection of German documents of intelligence value overseas but believes that CIA does not have the authority to prevent the Department of the Army from evacuating "worthless" documents from the custody of theater authorities to the custody of the Adjutant General. If the Army wishes to return large quantities of documents which have no national security intelligence value but which are of service or technical interest or which should be denied to the Germans or the Russians, CIA has no power of intervention.

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